

**00801**

**1986/06/09**

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Department of State

ETTC  
Satellite

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 BEIJIN 12927 090743Z  
ACTION DES-03

0406 EAP0051

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INFO C-01 P-01 RA-01 UN-01 X-01 /000 A2 VMCG

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00 CIAE-00  
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KNOW THE DETAILS OF THE INSURANCE PLAN. NILSSON COMMENTED THAT SWEDEN IS NOT SO CONCERNED ABOUT RESTRICTING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TO THE CHINESE, SO HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS WAS A FACTOR IN INSURING THE SATELLITE.

JOHNSON

P 090736Z JUN 86  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1302  
USDOC WASHDC  
NASA WASHDC  
NOAA ROCKVILLE  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER FL  
NASA JOHNSON SPACE CEN HOUSTON TX  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/PPC/ODR

Date 6/26/92

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UNCLAS BEIJING 12927

FOR EAP/C AND DES/SC; NASA FOR LIB-15; USIA FOR EA;  
NOAA FOR NESDIS -- E/ER - 1; KENNEDY SPACE CENTER FOR  
DIRECTOR SMITH

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, PINR, NSCA, CN, US

SUBJECT: SWEDEN MAY SIGN SATELLITE LAUNCH AGREEMENT  
WITH CHINA BEFORE THE END OF 1986; LAUNCH WILL BE MORE  
DISTANT

REF: A) STATE 153259 B) BEIJING 12235 C) BEIJING 11520

1. IN A DISCUSSION WITH CHRISTER NILSSON, TECHNICAL ATTACHE AT THE SWEDISH EMBASSY, EMBOFF LEARNED THAT SWEDEN HAS NOT ONLY SIGNED A LETTER OF INTENT TO LAUNCH MAILSTAR, A MAILBOX-TYPE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE, BUT NILSSON EXPECTS THE AGREEMENT ITSELF TO BE SIGNED BY THE END OF THE YEAR. THE SWEDES HAVE ALREADY PUT DOWN A FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLAR DEPOSIT. NILSSON COMMENTED THAT A DOWNPAYMENT IS NECESSARY TO GUARANTEE SWEDEN'S COMMITMENT TO THE PROJECT, BUT THE FIGURE IS SMALL BECAUSE THE SATELLITE ITSELF IS SMALL. NEVERTHELESS, THE CHINESE HAVE GREATLY TOUTED THIS LIKELY-TO-BE-FINALIZED AGREEMENT AS CHINA'S FIRST SUCCESS IN SEIZING THE SATELLITE-LAUNCHING MARKET AFTER U.S. AND FRENCH ROCKET FAILURES.

2. BECAUSE OF THE SATELLITE'S SMALL SIZE, THE CHINESE PLAN TO LAUNCH IT IN TANDEM WITH A CHINESE SATELLITE. THE LAUNCH DATE DEPENDS ON THE LAUNCH SCHEDULE OF THE CHINESE COMPANION SATELLITE, TENTATIVELY SET FOR SOMETIME WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED. NILSSON SAID THAT THE SWEDES ARE UNCONCERNED ABOUT LONG DELAYS, BECAUSE SWEDEN HAS NO EXACTING TIME SCHEDULE TO MEET. IN FACT, NEITHER THE SWEDES NOR THE CHINESE KNOW YET IF THE PROPOSED METHOD OF LAUNCH WILL PROVE FEASIBLE. THE SATELLITE MUST GO INTO ORBIT AT A RANGE WHICH THE LONG MARCH 2 ROCKET CANNOT REACH, SO AN ORBITAL TRANSFER MODULE, A SMALL BOOSTER ROCKET, WILL BE NECESSARY TO CARRY THE SWEDISH SATELLITE A THIRD STEP. THE SWEDES, WITH CHINESE COOPERATION, WILL FIRST HAVE TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE MODULE IDEA. A SWEDISH COMPANY, ERICSSON, WILL BUILD THE SATELLITE.

3. NILSSON SAID THAT PEOPLES BANK HAD AGREED TO INSURE THE SATELLITE AS PART OF THE CONTRACT, BUT HE DID NOT

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